

REMARKS

Claims 1-8 are active in the present application. The claims are amended to remove multiple dependencies. No new matter is added. An action on the merits and allowance of the claims is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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Serial No: _____

Amendment Filed on: _____

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification as follows:

Page 1, line 2, replace the text in its entirety with the following:

--PROCESS FOR PRODUCING FERMENTATION PRODUCT--

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Page 1, line

--3. (Amended) A method according to claim 1 [or 2], wherein said bioreactor is a fluidized bed type reactor comprising a fluidized bed section within which the immobilized microorganism is disposed, and a liquid circulating section for extracting a part of a fermentation liquid from a downstream side of said fluidized bed section and returning said part of fermentation liquid to an upstream side of said fluidized bed section.

5. (Amended) A method according to [one of claims 1 to 4] claim 1, wherein said immobilized microorganism is one which non-flocculent yeast is immobilized to a chitosan type immobilizing carrier.

6. (Amended) A method according to [one of claims 1 to 5] claim 1, wherein said non-flocculent yeast is a non-flocculent liquor yeast, and wherein said fermentation product is a liquor.

7. (Amended) A method according to [one of claims 1 to 5] claim 1, wherein said non-flocculent yeast is non-flocculent beer yeast, and wherein said fermentation product is a

malt alcohol beverage.

8. (Amended) A malt alcohol beverage made by the method according to [one of claims 1 to 7] claim 1.--